

## CLAIMS:

1. A camera support, comprising:

a base;

an isolator plate attached to the base and pivotable in a vertical

5 direction;

one or more springs for exerting a spring force between the base and  
the plate; and

one or more dampening elements for exerting a dampening force  
between the base and the plate.

- 10 2. The camera support of claim 1 further comprising a horizontal isolator  
assembly supported by the plate, and a leveling system associated with the plate  
and the horizontal isolator assembly.

3. A camera support, comprising:

a vertical axis system including:

15 a base;

an arm pivotably attached to the base;

at least one spring connected to the base and to the arm;

at least one dampener connected to the base and to the arm;

a horizontal axis system supported by the vertical axis system;

and

a leveling linkage connecting the vertical and horizontal axis

5 systems.

4. The camera support of claim 3 further including adjustment features for adjusting the leveling linkage to compensate for angulation movement of the base.

5. A shock and vibration isolator for a camera, comprising:

10 first and second spaced apart side plates;

an axle connecting to the side plates;

an arm attached to the axle, with the arm pivotable relative to the side plates;

a bar attached to the side plates;

15 at least one spring connected to the arm and to the bar;

at least one viscous dampener connected to the arm and to the bar;

first and second spaced apart leveling plates pivotably attached to the arm; and

first and second leveling rods pivotably attached respectively to the first and second side plates.

5           6.     The isolator of claim 5 further including a turnbuckle between the arm and the spring.

7.     The isolator of claim 5 further including one or more alternate attachment positions for the leveling rods on the side plates or the leveling plates.

8.     The isolator of claim 5 further including means for adjusting tension in  
10   the springs.

9.     The isolator of claim 5 further including a horizontal axis isolator supported on the leveling plates.

10.    The isolator of claim 9 with the horizontal axis isolator including a first longitudinal bar slidable through a first fitting on the first leveling plate, and a second  
15   longitudinal bar slidable through a second fitting on the second leveling plate, and a first lateral bar and a second lateral bar extending between and supported by the first and second longitudinal bars, and a mounting plate slidable along the first and second lateral bars.

11. The isolator of claim 10 with the first and second lateral bars having a radius of curvature of 60-168 inches.

12. The isolator of claim 10 further comprising lateral springs acting to hold the mounting plate at a lateral central location on the lateral bars, and longitudinal  
5 springs acting to hold the mounting plate at a longitudinal central location on the longitudinal bars;

a pair of lateral dampeners attached to the mounting plate; and

a pair of longitudinal dampeners attached to the mounting plate.

13. A camera support, comprising:

10 vertical isolation means for reducing inadvertent vertical movement of a camera;

longitudinal isolation means supported by the vertical isolation means, for reducing inadvertent longitudinal movement of the a camera; and

lateral isolation means supported by the longitudinal isolation means,  
15 for reducing inadvertent lateral movement of the camera.

14. A method for supporting a camera, comprising the steps of:

placing the camera on a camera plate supported for movement on a mobile base;

adjusting tension in one or more springs acting on the camera plate, to  
move the camera plate and the camera into a level horizontal position;

applying a dampening force to the camera plate; and

allowing the camera plate to pivot up and down vertically, to allow the  
5 camera to remain in a substantially steady position, as the mobile base moves over  
a supporting ground surface having irregularities.

15. The camera support of claim 1 with the spring exerting a spring force  
at an angle of 2-15 degrees to a plane of the isolator plate.

16. The camera support of claim 1 further comprising a camera mounting  
10 plate pivotably supported on the isolator plate, and a levelling system associated  
with the mounting plate and the isolator plate, for keeping the camera mounting  
plate level as the isolator plate pivots vertically.